In the Specification:

At page 3, amend the last paragraph as follows:

~~Figure 8 is a flow diagram~~ Figures 8A and 8B are flow diagrams representing a preferred

embodiment of an automatic channel selection scheme.

At page 4, amend the penultimate paragraph as follows:

~~Figure 18 is a block diagram~~ Figures 18A and 18B are block diagrams representing a

preferred embodiment of the transmit power backoff mechanism of Figure 13.

At page 6, amend the second paragraph as follows:

~~Figure 33 is a flow diagram~~ Figures 33A and 33B are flow diagrams representing the

STA bidding process in more detail.

At page 23, line 1, amend the paragraph as follows:

Referring to ~~Figure 8~~ Figures 8A and 8B, a preferred embodiment of the automatic

channel selection algorithm is shown. For each band:

At page 34, line 6, amend the paragraph as follows:

In accordance with the preferred embodiment for use in a wireless data networking

environment, as shown in ~~Figure 18~~ Figures 18A and 18B, APs perform the above described

power adjustment as follows. First, AP 12 checks to see if its Avoid Other WLANs flag is set

(step 280). The Avoid Other WLANs flag is a configuration parameter which can affect Power

Adjustment. In many wireless networking architectures, it is possible for several APs to occupy

the same channel while serving different physical networks. For example, in the 802.11 architecture, several APs can serve different ESSs. The AvoidOther WLANs flag is false by default. When set to false, the AP 12 will ignore any other APs on the same channel who's physical network is different from this AP 12's physical network (e.g., ESS ID). This option is useful for cases when there are multiple APs in relatively close proximity that are on different networks. In this case, the operator may prefer to run his AP at the maximum power level to provide the best possible signal for all stations on his network.

In the claims:

1. (original) A wireless network comprising: a plurality of access points, the access points cooperative to automatically choose channels for operation so that each access point uses a different channel, the access points being further cooperative to share channels in a manner that minimizes interference if no free channels remain; wherein access points sharing channels decrease their transmit power to minimize same channel interference; wherein access points transmit messages including a Backoff value to other access points, the Backoff value indicating to the other access points how far the transmitting access point's power has been adjusted down; wherein the access points that received the messages use the Backoff value to determine their own Backoff values.

2. (original) The wireless network of claim 1 further comprising: a plurality of stations associated across the access points, each station associated with one access point on one channel; wherein the stations receive messages from access points including the Backoff value; wherein the stations turn down their transmit power in response to the Backoff value received in the messages; wherein stations canvass other channels to see if another channel includes an access point that would provide better network performance; wherein better network performance is provided if an access point on another channel is closer than the access point to which the station is currently associated; if a station finds an access point on another channel that would provide better network performance, the station sends a message to the access point to request association with the access point; wherein access points receive the messages from the stations and selectively allow association of the stations to the access points based on the loading of the access point.

3. (original) A wireless network comprising: a plurality of access points, the access points cooperative to automatically choose channels for operation so that each access point uses a different channel, the access points being further cooperative to share channels in a manner that minimizes interference if no free channels remain; wherein access points sharing channels decrease their transmit power to minimize same channel interference; wherein access points transmit messages including a Backoff value to other access points, the Backoff value indicating

to the other access points how far the transmitting access point's power has been adjusted down; wherein the access points that received the messages use the Backoff value to determine their own Backoff values; a plurality of stations associated across the access points, each station associated with one access point on one channel; wherein the stations receive messages from access points including the Backoff value; wherein the stations turn down their transmit power in response to the Backoff value received in the messages; wherein stations canvass other channels to see if another channel includes an access point that would provide better network performance; wherein better network performance is provided if an access point on another channel is closer than the access point to which the station is currently associated; if a station finds an access point on another channel that would provide better network performance, the station sends a message to the access point to request association with the access point; wherein access points receive the messages from the stations and selectively allow association of the stations to the access points based on the loading of the access point.